

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20062-2000  
202/463-5310

November 9, 2011

The Honorable Scott P. Brown  
The United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, strongly supports S. 1791, the "Democratizing Access to Capital Act of 2011," which would enhance the capital formation needed to build new businesses and create jobs.

The Chamber recently released a study, [\*Sources of Capital and Economic Growth\*](#) that demonstrates the variety of capital sources that are needed by firms of all sizes in a free enterprise economy. Companies, small and large, particularly new businesses, need a mix of capital sources to meet short-term and long-term growth needs. Diversity of capital can help provide the liquidity needed for different sized firms to succeed.

S. 1791 would establish a new Securities Act exemption for small investments in small issuances, commonly known as crowd-funding, regardless of investors' accredited status, and exclude investors in such issuances from the Exchange Act's 499-shareholder cap. S. 1791 would also provide important investor protections with oversight by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Chamber believes this legislation will open up opportunities for small investors and facilitate capital formation for small businesses.

The Chamber strongly supports S. 1791 and looks forward to working with you on these issues and securing the passage of this important legislation that would help ensure the vibrancy of American capital markets.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Bruce Josten", written in a cursive style.

R. Bruce Josten